



Message from the Editor

Dear colleagues, ECIS members

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In the present issue of the ECIS Newsletter we would like to invite you to the first ever ECIS webinar, which we hope to introduce as a novel vehicle to discuss fundamental aspects of our science. The webinar will take place on 5/5/2023, and will address the topic of “bubbles and dissolved gas in colloid science”. Prof Barry Ninham (ANU, Australia), a major personality in the theory of Colloid Science in the last few decades, and Prof. William Ducker (Virginia Tech, USA), will pair, discuss theoretical and experimental aspects and answer questions from the audience.

The 37th edition of the ECIS yearly conference series will be offered in Naples. The organization is proceeding at a fast pace, important deadlines are approaching, and important details are discussed in this Newsletter.





The ECIS Student Training School associated with ECIS conferences will be offered in Marcoule, France (24-28/8/2023) and will take a different “turn” this year. Visit the advertisement offered in this Newsletter to see the details, visit the website, and book one of the few available places for your students.

Next in this issue, we renew our call for nominations for the two prestigious awards offered each year by our Society, the Overbeek gold medal and the Solvay prize. We are eagerly waiting for further nominations, with the aim of having lists of very strong candidates.

The ECIS Student conference has found a home for 2024. Prof. Serge Ravaine from the Centre de Recherche Paul Pascal (CNRS), Bordeaux, France, has offered to organize this important event. We are hoping that the first post-covid edition of this important conference will be as successful as older conferences, and as useful and career-promoting for young European colloid scientists.

Finally, we realized that there is still some time left to advertise the Zsigmondy Colloquium organized in Berlin in early April. This is a further nice opportunity for younger colleagues to learn new things, socialize and advance their careers.

On behalf of the ECIS Board

E. Leontidis

(Editor of the ECIS newsletter)

The first ECIS webinar on the fundamentals of Colloid Science, 5/5/2023



Recently, we have discussed in the ECIS Board that we, as a strong European scientific body, should do more for the fundamental basis of our science (the science established by Young, Laplace, Rayleigh, Thomson, Einstein, Smoluchowski, Langmuir, Perrin, Overbeek, Derjaguin and several other giants!). And we also agreed that any new development must be made outside the context of the yearly ECIS conference, for those who share our thoughts and are ready to undertake this new scientific challenge in Colloid and interface Science.

In the 2022 General Assembly in Platania the idea of a new online **ECIS webinar series** focusing on fundamental aspects of our science was approved. It is now time to put this decision to work. Our first discussion is scheduled for May 5, 2023; its topic, after considerable deliberation, will be **“The role of bubbles and dissolved gas in Colloid Science”**. We have recruited for this event the best person that could give a strong challenge to the fundamentals, none other but **Prof. Barry Ninham** (ANU, Australia), our 2015 Overbeek Medal recipient and a noted leader in the theory of colloid and interface science. His “opponent” from the experimental side is Prof. William Ducker (Virginia Tech, USA), who got his PhD degree in ANU, and has considerable experimental work in this area. The choice of these two speakers has created considerable problems with the timing of the webinar, and it is wonderful that current digital technology allows to link people all around the World. While the seminar will be held at around 13:00 CET, it will be only 07:00 in Virginia and 21:00 in Canberra at the time! Our deepest thanks to Barry and William for accepting such an imposition in their everyday schedule!

The webinar will be kindly hosted by the LINXS Institute of Advanced Neutron and X-ray Science in Lund; it will last two hours and will adopt the following three-session format.

- **Section I.** *Stability of bulk nanobubbles. Why is it possible? Theories? Experiments done to test the stability? (15 min from Barry Ninham, 15 from William Ducker, short session for answering questions placed by audience in advance. Total 40 min)*

A new idea: The ECIS webinar series on fundamentals



- **Section II.** *Effects of bubbles on surface forces. Phase stability, emulsions, forces between solids, could there be an effect on electrostatic and dispersion forces close to a surface? Adsorbed nanobubbles? Effects on Debye length close to surfaces and zeta potential? (20 min from Barry Ninham, 10 from William Ducker, questions from audience. Total 40 min)*
- **Section III.** *Bubbles in environmental problems (removing bacteria etc.), bubbles in biology (effects on protein activity, endothelial structure). (15 min from Barry Ninham, 15 from William Ducker, questions from audience. Total 40 min)*

The idea is that the audience should register to follow the event and should know a few days in advance about the actual content of the discussion. Short presentations related to the sessions, could be distributed to the registered participants. Then they could submit questions to the coordinator and have chosen questions answered by the two speakers. Unfortunately, we cannot have a discussion with many people involved during the webinar, because of the severe time-constraints.

We hope that this first webinar will be a success and will provide the impetus to start a regular webinar series. Interested colleagues have already contributed ideas about future discussion topics, so we can only be optimistic at this stage.

**37th ECIS conference,
Naples, Italy, 3-8/9/2023**



In 2023 the yearly ECIS conference will be organized in Naples, Italy. Following on the footsteps of the successful organization of the Chania-Platanias conference, we are looking forward to one more excellent ECIS conference. Professors Luigi Paduano and Gerardo d' Errico will chair the organizing committee in Naples, and they asked us to convey their warmest invitation to all members of the European community of Colloids and Interfaces to this important event. See you all in Naples! A strong organization effort is underway to make this an unforgettable experience for all.

37th European Colloid & Interface Society Conference

3-8 September 2023, Naples, Italy

www.ecis2023.eu





37th ECIS conference
3–8 September 2023
NAPLES

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Abstract Submission
deadline: **31 March 2023**
- Early registration:
10 June 2023
- Mid Registration:
15 July 2023
- Late Registration:
31 August 2023

Conference Organizers



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI
FEDERICO II



Welcome Note

Dear colleagues,

It is our great pleasure to invite you to the *37th Conference of the European Colloid and Interface Society (ECIS 2023)* that will take place from *3rd to 8th September 2023 in Naples (Italy)*.

ECIS 2023 is organized by the *University of Naples Federico II* and *CSGI*, under the auspices of *ECIS*, bringing together participants working in the interdisciplinary field of colloid and interface science, with a broad background ranging from chemistry to physics, from biology to engineering.

The scientific program will include plenary and keynote invited lectures, oral presentations and posters, consisting of four parallel sessions.

The venue is the *Stazione Marittima*, located close to the *Maschio Angioino Castle* and the very heart of the historical centre of Naples.

Complementing the scientific program, a diverse social program will offer to participants the possibility to discover the beauties and the historical and cultural gems spread in and around the city of Naples.

We look forward to your venue in Naples
The organizing committee

Conference Venue

The *Maritime Station* offers modern and functional structures among the most significant in Naples, its spaces have been the subject of restoration and reorganization, respecting the original architectural lines, thus giving rise to the *Congress Center* and the *shopping gallery*. The *Congress Center* which stands on the head overlooking *Piazza Municipio*, with its total area of *3,300 m²* is the ideal location for organizing congresses, events and exhibitions. In its *18 multipurpose meeting rooms* it can accommodate from *min. 20 to max 1,800 seats*.





**37th ECIS conference
3-8 September 2023
NAPLES**

Conference Sessions

- Amphiphiles and Self-assembly
- Bio-interfaces, Drug Delivery and Nanomedicine
- Colloids for Analytics
- Cultural Heritage and Environment
- Emulsions and Foams
- Energy and Photonics
- Food Science and Technology
- Nanoparticles, Nanocomposites, Nano- and Micro-Structured (Bio)Materials
- Polymers, Polyelectrolytes, Gels, Liquid Crystals and Anisotropic Fluids
- Rheology and Phase Behavior of Colloids and Complex Fluids
- Surface Forces and Thin Films
- Theory, Modelling and Simulation of Colloidal Systems
- Wetting and Capillarity





**37th ECIS conference
3-8 September 2023
NAPLES**

Plenary Speakers



Werner Kunz
Universität Regensburg



Uri Banin
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem



Molly M. Stevens
Imperial College London



Brigitte Voit
Leibniz Institute of Polymer Research Dresden



Paolo Samori
University of Strasbourg



2023 Student Training School in Marcoule, France



In the place of the usual Student Training School typically organized by the yearly ECIS conference organizers, the ECIS General Assembly has approved a different event for 2023. A Student Training Camp will take place in Marcoule, France, during the week prior to the Naples conference (28/8 to 1/9/2023), and will use a different format:

The number of student-participants will be smaller than that in previous ECIS Summer Schools (a maximum of 30). The students will be associated in pairs, and will follow each morning 2 specific courses of 1,5 hours each. Professors Dganit Danino (Technion, Haifa), Dominik Horinek (Univ. of Regensburg), Martin Inn (Univ. of Montpellier), and Minos Leontidis (Univ. of Cyprus) will deliver the morning courses. The afternoons will be dedicated to work by the student teams on either **a physicochemical phenomenon** to be chosen from the list of the conference themes (e.g. solubilization, dispersion, coagulation, adsorption/separation, gelation, colloidal stabilization, wetting, phase transitions) or **an innovation project**. The projects will be chosen from available lists before the School starts (just after the registration).

Most student teams will be asked to perform specific experiments, using one or more of the colloid chemistry methods available at the Marcoule Institute. The results of the student efforts will be presented on the 5th day in the form of 15-minute slide shows or video presentations. The student teams will be supervised and supported (to guide, to answer questions, to direct literature research if necessary) by the professors and other supervising researchers from ICSM.

We are very excited about this new format, which starts this year on a trial basis. Details are given in the website of the Training School, which is given in the next page provided by the organizers.

2023 Student Training School in Marcoule, France



INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL



Organized by Marcoule Institute for Separation Chemistry (ICSM)
France, close to Avignon

From August 28th to September 1st, 2023



We are delighted to announce that the next ECIS summer school will take place this year at the Marcoule Institute for Separation Chemistry in France, close to Avignon, the week before the 37th ECIS conference in Naples.

The format will be novel as it combines theoretical lectures and laboratory practice sessions on defined soft matter principles.

This school is open for PhD students and post-doctorates only.

Lectures on soft matter physical chemistry will be given in the mornings. Laboratory work will be carried out by the participants in the afternoons and supervised by ICSM scientists.

The deadline for registration is April 15th.

For more information about the event, see the website <https://site.evenium.net/y4mccjx5/> and for any questions please contact either Dr Olivier Diat at olivier.diat@cea.fr or Mrs Véronique Haon at veronique.haon2@cea.fr

Hope to see many of you there!

Olivier Diat

Overbeek medal and Solvay award : new rules and call for nominations



In the 2022 General Assembly of ECIS, which took place in Platania on 8/9/2022, it was decided to implement some changes regarding the rules for the committees that award yearly the Overbeek prizes and Solvay award. More specifically it was decided that:

- The size of the Committee for the Overbeek medal will be increased from 6 to 7. The new Committee will include the President, the Past President, **and** the Vice-President of ECIS, and also the Overbeek foundation representative and the three most recent Overbeek medal winners.
- The Committee for the ECIS-Solvay award will also be increased from 5 to 7 members and will include the President, the Past-President, and the Vice-President of ECIS, a Solvay representative, the organizer of the current ECIS conference, **and** two former ECIS-Solvay prize winners.

These changes ensure the equivalence of the two committees. Both awards are considered of the utmost importance for the Society. The changes also ensure (through the odd number of committee members) that an even vote for the two final candidates will be avoided.

We urge all Society members to propose new nominations for the 2023 awards as soon as possible. Please recall that the Overbeek medal is not restricted to European scientists, and focuses on lifetime achievements and a clear demonstration of the impact of the candidate's research on Colloid and Interface Science. The Solvay prize on the other hand is given to European scientists (or scientists working in European research labs or industry), and is based on a particular research achievement highlighted in a maximum of five publications in the last five years.

The nominators of each prize will be asked to submit a proper *laudatio* for the successful candidates to be used in the Website, Newsletter and 2023 award ceremony. All nominations should be submitted to the ECIS Secretary, Prof. Pierandrea LoNostro, at pierandrea.lonostro@unifi.it

**The next Student
Colloid Conference
(ESC-2024) will take
place in Bordeaux!**



The 19th European Student Colloid Conference (ESC-2024) will take place in Bordeaux, after Prof. Serge Ravaine proposed to organize it and the ECIS Board gave its consent. More information will be available in the next installments of our Newsletter, as the organization of ESC-2024 advances.

The Zsigmondy colloquium in Berlin, 4-6/4/2023



The 18th Zsigmondy Colloquium of the German Colloid Society will take place in Berlin at the Technische Universität Berlin.

The Zsigmondy colloquium aims at younger researchers at the pre- and post-doc levels in the field of colloid, surface and interface science. Our goal is to foster communication between researchers from universities and other research institutions and industry. The conference will start at 11:00 am on the 4th and end at 01:30 pm on the 6th of April 2023.

Topics covered: (a) characterization of colloidal systems, (b) chemistry and physics of functional colloids, (c) surfactants, microemulsions, emulsions, and vesicles, (d) hydro- and oleogels, (e) formulations, (f) theory and simulation.

For more information see: <https://www.tu.berlin/en/molmat/zsigmondy2023>

18th Zsigmondy Colloquium 2023



Welcome to the 18th Zsigmondy Colloquium 2023!

18th Zsigmondy Colloquium 2023 of the German Colloid Society.

From characterisation to understanding properties and function of colloidal systems

Berlin, April 4-6, 2023

[How to participate...](#)

Final notes



- You receive this newsletter as a registered member of ECIS
- If you are not an ECIS member, please contact our Secretary, Prof. Pierandrea Lo Nostro (pierandrea.lonostro@unifi.it)
- If you have comments or suggestions and if you wish to contribute to future newsletters, please contact the newsletter editor, Prof. Minos Leontidis (psleon@ucy.ac.cy), or the ECIS webmaster, Prof. Dominik Horinek (dominik.horinek@ur.de)